BIG TIMES IN ALBANY,

Rev. Gibbons a Successful and Tireless Worker-An Interest ing Drama-Israel Church Free of Debt_Great Newspaper Honored.

Albany, N. Y., Special.

Rev. Charles N. Gibbons paster of the Israel A. M E. Church, Hamilton St. this city, has succeeded in liquidating the debt left upon the church by his predecessor the Rev. D P. Brown, and the church is now in a flourishing condition. Rev. Gibbons is a thoroughge. ing, conscientious and honest man, and has applied himself zealously to the work of dischaiging the great multitude of small bills against the church which have been presented by its numerous creditors to the trustee board and pastor with annoying frequency and persistency. Mr Gibbons has been greatly assisted in the work of lifting the church debt by a kind hearted and Christian gentleman, Mr. George H. Knowlton, a retired Albany merchant, who was greatly interested in the prosperity, temporal and spiritual, of this church. Through Mr Knowlton asum of money was raised (\$645.75) with which outstanding debts against the church have been paid as far as pre-sented, and the church is now for the first time in many years entirely free from debt except the small obligations incurred for necessary running expenses. So anxious was Mr. Gibbons to clear up these bills against the church, that he did not insist upon the payment of his own salary which was in arrears to the amount of over \$200,00, from this sum, raised through the kindness of Mr. Knowlton, but relied upon the grat tude and honor of his trustee board and members for the prompt and cheerful payment of his back salary in full, or so much thereof as they could reasonably pay without prejudice to the interest of the church.

At a barmonious meeting of the trustee board of the church on January 22, 1900 he was voted and paid \$191 00 leaving a small balance due on salary. The present board of trustees of Hamil. ton Street church, are Mesers. Joseph Price, President, John Caldwell, secretary, William H. Brent, treasurer; Wm Van Alstyne, Richard R. Johnson, Henry Pinckney and Henry Hyson, representative of the progressive ele ment among Albany's colored citizens, whose administration begins under promising and encouraging auspices. The exterior of the church has recently been beautifully repainted through the intelligent efforts of a committee of ladies and gentlemen of which Miss Mary R. Hoyt was chairman; Wm. H. Brent 2nd vice president; Rev. C. N. Gibbons, secretary and Mrs. J. E. ful w. Bruce, treasurer. This committee with lamp. the co operation of its members and the the sum of \$108 15, and Hamilton St. church now presents an attractive ap pearance and is a source of pride to the residents of the street as well as to its members and friends of the congregation.

Following is a report of the most suc cessful fair ever held in Hamilton St. church. The fair began January 15 -19 and was a pronounced success net ting the church \$238 84 clear. Rev. C N. Gibbons, the efficient pastor of the church, comes in for no small share of praise for the success which has attended the efforts of the trustees and the various committees of ladies and gen tlemen who assisted with the fair. The public attendance during each night was very generous and all the various booths were liberally patronized. The following named ladies had charge of booths: Mrs. C. N. Gibbons, Missee VI vian Jones and -- Freeman; doll and flower booth; Mrs. E. B. Irving, china booth; Miss Sylvia Freeman, candy booth; Misses Estella Leggett, Rita Leggett, Rachael Van Dursen, quilt booth; Mrs. Wm. Van Alstyne, soft drinks; Misses Rachael Hardy, Carrie Leggett and Grace Stanford, cake booth; Mrs. Mary Cross, ice cream; Mrs. Julia Ten Eyck, fancy booth; Miss Mary Hoyt, Mesdames Susie Freeland, Freeman, and J. E. Bruce. Cashier, Mr. Joseph Price; secretary, Miss Eva Wil liams; assistant secretary, Miss Maggie hot one indeed. -Bruce Grit in Florida Harding. The Colored American booth Sentinel.

was in charge of Miss Anna J. Moore, who distributed dozens of sample copies of The Colored American among the visitors. The following persons bought copies and registered; Mr. J. D. Nichols No 219 Grange street; Aaron Oiver 336 Hamilton street, Charles Sheivey, 16 Chapel street; Lewis N. Vernon, Boston, Mass.; Geo Tumney, 28 Congress street; J. H. Clifton, 28 Congress street; R. R. Burwell, Troy, N. Y.; T. H. Allen, Albany; J. Thomas Fitch, Albany; J. H. Davis, Troy; W. H. Hoyt, 97
Orange street; Miss M. R. Hoyt, 304

Ond Sunday in each month, at Second Bap State street; M'ss Carrie Dixon, Chest-nut street; Mrs. Minnie James, 576 Broadway; Miss Marie Niver, 536 Broad

The opening night of the fair was a great success and the sales at the various booths were brisk and encouraging. A musical program was given in the auditorium upstairs by the Sunday School scholars. Tuesday evening the choir of the church gave a very creditable concert under the direction of Messrs, J. R. Frisby and John D. Nichols. Wednesday evening the American Protective League had charge On Thursday night a company of young ladies presented a drama entitled The Minister's Christmas Greeting," which was well rendered. Mr. Henry

A. Spencer enacted the role of the lonesome young clergyman, and looked 4TH AND OST. N.W. the part to perfection. Each one of his young lady admirers had unbeknown to the other worked a pair of slippers for his ministerial feet and as no two pair were of the same size, the poor preacher was in a fix. It was a very laughable little drama and showed the craftiness of the tender sex to enmesh a guileless and innocent prescher As he could not marry all of them and didn't express a preference for either. they all turned on him and tore his reputation to tatters, called him a mean selfish old thing, erc. It was a case of sour grapes.

The following persons won door prizes given each night at the fair; Monday night, a handsome table cover Miss Eva Williams; Tuesday night, rocking chair, Mrs. Anna Pickett; Wednesday night, a very pretty table lamp, Miss Mabel Dixon; Thursday half ton coal, Mr. J. O. Commeraw; Friday pair of ladies shoes, Mrs. Henry Pinck.

NOTES.

Sarah Harding, a pretty doll. Ida Gibbons, a very pretty doll.

Blanche Bronck, a fancy sewing basket.

Mrs. E B. Irving. a buzz saw pincushion.

Mr. Sanford Yopp won a beautiful sik pillow.

Garland Andrews a very fine Afghan. Mrs. C. N. Gibbons, a very beautiful

Mrs. Wm. H. Hoyt was the successful winner of a magnificent parior

During the fair, a number of visitors generous and substantial encourage from out of town were present, notice ment of the public spirited citizens of able among whom were Miss Fannie Albany, raised within a few months Gibbons, Miss Carlotta Gibbons, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Johnson and many

The pastor and congregation and the various committees of the fair desire to express through The Colored American their grateful thanks to the merchants of Albany and the public generally the former for many useful donations and the latter for their general patronage and encouragement.

Mrs. J. E. BRUCE.

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SETS A HOT PACE.

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